GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4315
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2002
CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDUCATION
A.K. PREMAJAM;BASUDEB ACHARIA;LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in Indian Express dated September 24, 2002 captioned `I`ve only taken education a step forward, many have told me it`s the finest syllabi ever`;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether it is a fact that the CABE has apart from the State Education Ministers has posts for 50-60 experts, vacant;

(d) if so, whether it is also fact that the HRD, Jt. Secretary told the SC in writing that the CABE (1990-94) had 76 officials elected and 32 nominated members;

(e) if so, whether the statements are contradicting the official information submitted in the SC;

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(g) whether it is fact that the Mahatma Gandhi was against CABE; and

(h) if so, the facts and the source of reference thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) to (h): The matter relating to the National Curriculum Framework for School Education, 2000 (NCFSE) was challenged in the Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No. 98/2002

- Aruna Roy and others versus Union of India and others. The Hon`ble Court in its judgement dated 12.9.2002 has upheld the validity of the NCFSE.

The proposal for re-constitution of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE), was considered by the then and successive governments after the expiry of its extended tenure as last constituted on 31.3.1994, but no final decision could be taken. Since the Board was not reconstituted, the question of having any vacancy does not arise. The Affidavit filed in the Supreme Court, was based on the records of CABE as it was last constituted.There is no contradiction in the two statements as not all the members other than those nominated are `elected` members and are experts representing various categories.

The statement under reference was made in the context of Mahatma Gandhi being against some of CABE`s policies.